

The newly formed contracting company of JV Oduber is a perfect example of the enthusiasm and confidence that many U.S. investors have in Aruba. Director Francis Oduber, in partnership and Frank Rusich of Louisiana have combined to establish a company that will not only be a subcontractor to Valero on many of their projects, but has clients in the refineries of Curacao, Bonaire and Venezuela, thus generating revenues for the island of Aruba.

They celebrated this partnership with a Grand Opening party last week that was surely a melding of Aruba and Texas, with typical Aruban snacks, but giant Texas barbecue as the main dish. Executives of Valero joined the party, including General Manager Ray Buckley of Aruba, and former GM Martin Parrish was in to visit from Valero Headquarters in Texas. John Durham of the JV parent company, JV Industries of La Porte, Texas attended, as did many executives from JVVI, the company that was formed to do the recent work on the visbreaker at Valero.

Frank Rusich expressed supreme confidence in the need and success of a fully Aruban company to handle the enormous demand for industrial work amongst the many refineries of the region. This also includes work on power plants, and the company is negotiating a contract with St. Eustasius at this time. Frank reports he has been working as a subcontractor to the refinery in Aruba for over sixteen years, loves everything about the island, and is overjoyed to be part of a local company offering jobs and training to the native islanders. "JV Oduber is a long-term commitment to Aruba, offering opportunity for advancement to local employees, preference to island vendors, and support to local banks," states Frank," we take great pride in being an Aruban company." JV Oduber is one of the many companies taking part in the "turnaround" that is now taking place at the Valero Refinery, an intense month of round-the-clock work that will clean and refurbish the facility.

Francis Croes and Frank Rusuch also expressed particular gratitude to the law firm of Rick Samuels and Arlene Ellis-Shipper for their excellent work in helping to establish JV Oduber, and the support of the CMB Bank. They acknowledged they could not have successfully found the company without their "excellent work and cooperation."

It was a grand opening celebration indeed, with an international group of attendees, but Aruban style!